

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 have been amended as follows:

**Listing of claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A telescopic hoist formed of a series of telescopically arranged tubular sections in a semi-lubricated contact between each other, which allows ambient air to freely enter in the hoist between a piston head and tubular section thereof, the tubular sections having semi-lubricated contact between each other, whereincomprising:

~~a series of tubular sections,~~ each successive tubular section is of a smaller diameter and is nested within each prior successive tubular section such that each tubular section has telescopically sliding surfaces, each tubular section being open to ambient air at a first end thereof and closed by a piston head on a second end thereof, and each piston head, other than the piston head on an innermost tubular section, having an opening for passage of a fluid under pressure through successive areas enclosed between two successive piston heads; and

~~wherein~~ each piston head has a bore seal, each bore seal providing a sealing wall between the fluid on the second end of each tubular section and the ambient air on the first end of each tubular section, and

~~wherein~~ said tubular sections are formed of nitrided steel, surfaces of walls of the nitrided steel tubular sections being in contact with one another as the tubular sections are telescopically displaced as a result of introduction of the fluid under pressure, surface asperities of the surfaces providing formation of a film of the fluid on the telescopically sliding surfaces of the tubular sections.

2. (Currently amended) A telescopic hoist formed of a series of telescopically arranged tubular sections in a semi-lubricated contact between each other, which allows ambient air to freely enter in the hoist between a piston head and tubular section thereof, the tubular sections having semi-lubricated contact between each other, wherein comprising:

~~a series of telescopically actuatable tubular sections,~~ each successive tubular section is of a smaller diameter and is nested within each prior successive tubular section such that each tubular section has telescopically sliding surfaces; each tubular section being open to ambient air at a first end thereof and each tubular section, other than the tubular section having the smallest diameter, closed on a second end thereof opposite the first end, by a piston head having an opening for passage of a pressure fluid therethrough; ~~and~~

bore seals between areas enclosed by two successive piston heads ~~for separating~~ separate the fluid on the second end from the ambient air on the first end; and

~~wherein~~ said sections are formed of nitrided steel and have surface asperities, and, as a result of introduction of the fluid under pressure, the surface asperities of the telescopically sliding surfaces provide formation of a film of the fluid thereon.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently amended) A telescopic hoist, formed of a series of telescopically arranged tubular sections in a semi-lubricated contact between each other, and which allows ambient air to freely enter in the hoist between a piston head and tubular section thereof, the tubular sections having semi-lubricated contact between each other, comprising:

a cylindrical housing receiving the series of telescopically arranged tubular sections, said tubular sections being;

~~a series of~~ fluid pressure actuatable tubular sections ~~telescopically received in said housing~~, each successive tubular section being of a smaller diameter and nested within each prior successive tubular section such that each tubular section has telescopically sliding surfaces; each said tubular section being open to ambient air on a first end thereof and each tubular section, other than the tubular section having the smallest diameter, closed by a piston head with an inlet port for passage of a pressure fluid therethrough; and

a bore seal mounted in each of said piston heads, for confining said fluid on the second end;

wherein said tubular sections are formed in a nitrided steel, a film of the fluid forming asperities on the telescopically sliding surfaces of the tubular sections on the second end as they are telescopically displaced under action of the fluid under pressure.

5. (Currently amended) A bore seal telescopic hoist, formed of a series of telescopically arranged tubular sections in a semi-lubricated contact between each other, and which allows ambient air to freely enter in the hoist between a piston head and tubular section thereof, the tubular sections having semi-lubricated contact between each other, operated by a fluid under pressure, comprising:

~~a series of tubular sections; and~~

a tubular housing with an open end to receive said series of tubular sections, said tubular sections being telescopically arranged in said tubular housing such that each successive tubular section is of a smaller diameter than the prior tubular section and nested within each prior successive tubular section such that each tubular section has telescopically sliding surfaces, and such that said tubular sections are open to the atmosphere at a first end thereof and closed at a second end thereof opposite the first end thereof;

wherein said series of tubular sections comprises an outermost tubular section and at least two inner tubular sections, said outermost tubular section having a head provided with a hydraulic inlet port allowing a fluid to be introduced in a first area

between said head and a piston head of an outermost one of said at least two inner tubular sections, said outermost one of said at least two inner tubular sections having an opening allowing the fluid to be received in a second area enclosed between the piston head thereof and a piston head of a successive tubular section, each piston head being provided with a bore seal confining the fluid on the second end of the tubular sections, said tubular sections being made in a nitrided steel, and, when the tubular sections are telescopically displaced under action of the fluid under pressure a film of the fluid is formed on said telescopically sliding surfaces of the telescopically arranged and moving tubular sections due to a presence of surface asperities thereon.